The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretation of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and publishes information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Entered as second-class matter September 30, 1910, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 11, 1918.

"Confidence is a thing not to be produced by compulsion."—Daniel Webster.

WHOLE NO. 1328 WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1936 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary-Treasurer VOL. 26, NO. 39

Non-Partisan Political Policy Wins Big List of Federal Laws for Labor

Last Congress Placed Many Measures for Benefit of Workers on Statute Books Despite Opposition of Employers' Organizations and Special Interests, Secretary-Treasurer Morrison Asserts.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The important achievements of the non-partisan political policy of the American Federation of Labor in securing the enactment of measures for the benefit of working people at the last Congress were recently emphasized by Frank Morrison, secretary-treasurer of the Federation.

Pointing out that the underlying principle of the non-partisan political policy declares it to be the duty of the organized wage earners to "stand faithfully by our friends and elect them," and "oppose our enemies and defeat them, whether they be candidates for President, for Congress or other offices, whether executive, legislative or judicial," Mr. Morrison said:

"Despite the most aggressive opposition, labor was successful in securing the enactment of important measures into law during the first and second sessions of the Seventy-fourth Congress.

"Among the laws enacted which are regarded as of great benefit to labor are:

"The National Labor Relations Act, reaffirming the rights of workers to organize and bargain collectively and prohibiting employers from interfering with these rights.

Beginning in Social Security

"The Social Security Act, which marks a beginning in protecting wage earners and their families from the major economic hazards of unemployment and old-age dependence and provides safeguards for the welfare of children, the blind and crippled, and for maternal and child health.

"Forty-hour week for 121,069 postal employes with no reduction in wages.

"Railroad Retirement Act, providing a system of pensions for railroad employes.

"Appropriation of $4,880,000,000 for relief of unemployed.

"Prison labor law prohibiting transportation of prison-made products into states having state-use systems.

"The Federal Contracts Act, providing that all government contractors shall pay the prevailing rate of wages, work employes not more than eight hours a day and five days a week, with no child labor to be employed on all contracts entered into by an activity of the government.

"Forbidding transportation in interstate commerce of professional strike breakers who would interfere with peaceful picketing.

Civil Liberties Investigation

"Investigation ordered by Senate of violations of the right of free speech and free assemblage and undue interference with right of labor to organize and bargain collectively.

"Placing under state compensation safety laws all workers employed on public works.

"Providing that all passenger vessels having accommodations for 50 or more passengers shall be equipped with automatic sprinkler systems.

"Prevailing rate of wages to be paid on all relief work.

"Requiring ship corporations that receive subsidies from the government to incorporate in their contracts minimum manning and wage scales and reasonable working conditions.

"Granting facilities of Public Health Service to all seamen on government vessels not in military or naval establishments.

"Appropriated $12,000,000 for further development of vocational education.

"Appropriation of $1,425,000,000 for direct work relief on useful projects.

"Five-day week with no reduction in pay for those employes of Bureau of Engraving and Printing who were not included in the 1935 law.

"Powerful employers' organizations and the representatives of special interests most vigorously opposed the enactment of these measures into law. The record made represents a legislative achievement for the American Federation of Labor."

San Francisco Mailers Land Award Giving Higher Wages

San Francisco, Calif. (AFLNS).—Mailers' Union No. 18 has just won a signal victory, through an arbitration award handed down by Prof. Paul Douglas, by previous agreement of the union and the San Francisco Newspaper Publishers' Association.

Included among the gains are additional pay for extras working less than four days a week, priority on extra work, a differential for night work, extension of the rest period between shifts, vacations, wage increases ranging up to $2.08 a week, retroactive to January 15, 1936. Present wage rates are $7.35 for day work and $7.50 for night work. There had been no differential for night work heretofore.

The union members of the arbitration board included Joseph P. Bailey and H. J. Christie, while Leo Ihle and Lewis E. Haas represented the publishers on the Board, with Prof. Douglas as Arbitrator. Special briefs and evidence were prepared for both sides.

10 Per Cent Wage Increase Won by Broom Makers' Union

Chicago (AFLNS).—Following a strike of about two weeks, Broom and Whisk Makers' Local Union No. 29 gained a 10 per cent restoration of an original 15 per cent pay cut which had been exacted by employers during the period of "hard times."

President Niyork of the local union, in announcing the settlement, stated that the men returned to work when the 10 per cent increase was granted and agreed to by the union as a compromise.

AFL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CONVENES ON OCTOBER 7

Washington, D. C. (AFLNS).—The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor will meet at 2:30 P. M. on Wednesday, October 7, in the Council Room of the A. F. of L. headquarters here, Frank Morrison, secretary-treasurer of the Federation, announced.

Among other business the Council will complete its annual report to be submitted to the fifty-sixth convention of the American Federation of Labor which meets in Tampa, Fla., in November.

WASHINGTON BAKERS WIN STRIKE FOR UNION SHOP

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—One of the most notable labor victories to be gained in the nation's capital within recent years has just been consummated, with the signing of an agreement by Dutch Baker Boy, Inc., with Bakery Salesmen's Local Union No. 33 and Bakery and Confectionery Workers' Local Union No. 118.

The firm, which sells from house to house, had started on the proverbial "shoe string," with no plant, and built up a fairly large business, then erected a plant and continued to grow on a non-union basis. Neither union bakers nor bakery salesmen had been employed. Finally, the salesmen were organized and became members of Local No. 33, which has over 500 members in other plants. Then the firm started "firing" the union men, resulting in a strike by 29 bakery salesmen in early August.

Bakers No. 118 started picketing all trucks of the firm, house to house, as calls were made, and the entire A. F. of L. labor movement got behind the strikers. Seven pickets were beaten up during the strike and on one occasion the president of the firm brandished a revolver before several pickets, firing one shot. But the bakery salesmen and bakers kept up the good fight, assessing all of their local members $1 each week to "carry on," providing a strike fund of about $1,000 a week.

The new agreement provides for a "closed shop" throughout, including bakers, bakery helpers and bakery salesmen (drivers), an adjustment of hours, substantial wage increases and the check-off system of dues collecting. The settlement is hailed as a hard-fought, clean-cut victory for organized labor.

UNION LABEL EXHIBITION PLANNED FOR WASHINGTON

Washington, D. C. (AFLNS).—Washington Union Label League, chartered by the Union Label Trades Department of the A. F. of L., which has been conducting an intensive campaign "in the interest of union label products and of union services" during the past year, is now planning a mammoth Union Label Exhibit and Carnival, to be held November 19, 20 and 21.

The affair will be held in Typographical Temple, a building that, once housed the national headquarters of the American Federation of Labor, and will be open to the public both day and evening. There will be numerous exhibits of union label products and of forms of union service, in addition to carnival and special entertainment features. Every afternoon and evening, selected speakers will explain in brief prepared talks something of the history and value of the union label, shop card and button.

The Union Label Exhibit and Carnival is announced as a further effort to make the nation's capital more "union label conscious." Many here anticipate that it will be one of the most outstanding affairs ever to be sponsored by a local labor organization.

MEMPHIS BARBERS' UNION SIGNS UP 29 NEW SHOPS

Memphis, Tenn. (AFLNS).—Twenty-nine suburban barber shops have recently been signed up by Barbers' Local Union No. 395, according to an announcement by George B. McNamara, business representative for the local union. At one recent meeting of the local about 50 new members were taken in.

Reports indicate that perhaps 30 additional shops may be signed in the very near future and probably 50 or more additional members secured. The campaign, which is proving very successful, has the solid support of all labor organizations in this vicinity.

STRIKE WON BY JEWELRY WORKERS IN MINNEAPOLIS

Eight Firms Sign Agreement for 7½ Per Cent Wage Increase—Minimum Rates Are Fixed.

Minneapolis, Minn. (AFLNS).—Following a two weeks' strike involving 200 workers in the trade, Local No. 14, International Jewelry Workers' Union, secured an agreement from eight jewelry firms here granting a 7½ per cent wage increase, fixing minimum pay rates, and establishing other union conditions.

Before the agreement wages ranged from 41 cents to 63 cents per hour. The new minimum wage range includes 50 cents an hour for helpers to 85 cents for first-class polishers, all-around engravers and platinum workers, with the provision that wages above the minimum shall be based on the workers' ability.

In addition to increased wage rates the contract provides that 40 hours shall constitute a week's work with time and one-third for overtime except stock work. During December all overtime work will draw time and one-third pay.

Other provisions include requirements for sanitary provisions in all shops, clean floors and machines, suitable drinking water, adequate protection from steel dust and the elimination of work as far as possible, reemployment of all striking employes without discrimination for union activities, observance of New Year's Day, Decoration Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day as legal holidays with payment of the union scale of double time for work done on these days.

If an employe during slack times is assigned to work on something calling for a scale less than he is receiving, the agreement provides that his wages shall not be reduced.

The following firms signed the agreement: Ostbye and Anderson, The Barth Company, Kirchner and Remich, Nelson and Nelson, F. G. Schloser Company, Max E. Bruhn, D. O. K. Jewelry Company, and Schwartz Brothers.

Union officials declared the agreement was the first ever made in the history of the jewelry trade in Minneapolis. In view of the fact that prior to the strike there was no standard of hour or overtime pay, the agreement was regarded as a good one.

PRISON GOODS ABOLITION VISIONED FOR TENNESSEE

Governor-Elect Browning Advocates State-Use System in Place of Contract Convict Labor.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The long campaign of the Tennessee Federation of Labor, supported by the American Federation of Labor, for the elimination of the state's competition with free labor will probably be carried to a successful conclusion when the state legislature of Tennessee meets, according to information received from that state.

During the past few years the efforts of organized labor in Tennessee for this reform have been aided by a number of other organizations, including the Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs, the Southern Garment Manufacturers' Association, and the Tennessee Committee on Prison Competition.

Sponsors for the movement to adopt the state-use system declare that recent Federal state legislation along this line make it imperative for Tennessee to prohibit the sale of prison-made goods on the open market in order to prevent the state from becoming the dumping ground for the prison products of those states that still cling to the vicious practice of producing convict labor goods for open market sales. It is pointed out that more than two-thirds of the states have already installed the state-use system and that its adoption in the rest of the states is only a matter of time.

Captain Gordon Browning, the next Governor, is definitely pledged to the abolition of the contract convict labor system. In a speech during his primary campaign on June 10, 1936, he made the following declaration on this subject:

"All state prison production should be confined to state uses. If surplus labor is to be leased it should be at a price that will not demoralize values upon which private industry and free labor depends. And no favoritism should be shown in the leasing. This same principle applies to the mining of coal. It should not be used again as has been recently revealed, for private enterprise in direct competition with legitimate trade. It should be limited to state uses, and that I propose to do. The many thousands of dollars now going into private pockets from prison-mined state coal is a public disgrace and demoralizing to the legitimate trade. My practice will stop when I am Governor of Tennessee and the output of the state mines will be completely taken out of the commercial trade and confined to state uses."

Seattle Clerks Are Gaining 5-Day Week and Higher Wages

Seattle, Wash. (AFLNS).—Local retail clerks are reported as making commendable progress in their fight for increased wages and the five-day work week.

According to an announcement by Leo Ledwich, business representative for the local Retail Clerks' Union, a number of Seattle stores have already signed agreements, making the five-day week effective and covering wage adjustments.

Six Detective Agency Men Indicted; Contempt Of Senate in Labor Spy Probe Charged by Jury

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The District of Columbia Grand Jury indicted six men, four of them high officials of the Railway Audit & Inspection Co., of Pittsburgh, on two charges of contempt of the United States Senate in connection with the investigation of labor spies in industrial disputes and other forms of interference with the right of the workers to organize and carry on ordinary union activities which is being made by the Senate Civil Liberties Committee headed by Senator Robert M. La Follette of Wisconsin.

The indictment was based on testimony submitted to the Grand Jury by representatives of the La Follette committee that the persons involved had refused to obey subpoenas served by agents of the committee requiring them to appear before the committee with the records and documents of the concern's activities.

Those indicted were:

J. W. Groves, Pittsburgh, president of the company.

W. B. Groves, Pittsburgh, vice president.

J. D. Blair, Philadelphia, treasurer.

L. W. Rice, Philadelphia, general manager.

R. S. Judge, New York, former director.

J. C. Boyer, Pittsburgh, an operative.

Railway Audit & Inspection Company is reputed to be one of the largest detective agencies in the United States. Representatives of the La Follette committee stated that the managers of the company's offices in various cities not only refused to surrender their documents to the committee in response to the subpoenas but actually destroyed them. Agents of the committee seized waste paper discarded by offices of the concern and put a number of employes to work piecing together the scraps of torn correspondence. From these sources the committee gained considerable information which the concern thought had been completely buried by its document-destroying policy.

Conviction on the contempt charge is punishable by a fine of $100 to $1,000 and by imprisonment of one month to a year. The United States District Attorney's office said counsel for the six men would be instructed to arrange for their immediate appearance. They later was announced that bench warrants had been issued for their arrest.

Federal Judge Bell Refuses Injunction Against St. Paul Petroleum Workers' Union

By A. F. of L. News Service.

St. Paul, Minn.—The familiar appeals for an "injunction," by which some employers have in the past been able to handicap the progress of organized labor, fell flat here recently when Federal District Judge Robert C. Bell of Duluth rescinded a temporary "ex parte" restraining order which had previously been granted to L. L. Coryell & Son, St. Paul filling station operators, against union pickets, members of the Petroleum Workers' Union. A permanent injunction petitioned for was refused by the court.

It is significant that the court, in refusing the injunction, stated that "sufficient facts are admitted, or are evident, to show that a labor dispute as defined by the Norris-La Guardia Act is involved in this case" and that the court is therefore without jurisdiction. The court upheld the contention of the unions, stating that the evidence showed no effort on the part of the Coryell firm to arbitrate the dispute.

Petroleum Workers, Locals 18281 and 19802, began picketing on June 28 and continued until August 14, when the ex parte restraining order was issued. The right of the unions to conduct picketing was established by the court order.

Following a request for higher wages and shorter hours, two Coryell employes were discharged, thus starting the trouble originally. The men are reported as having received $50.50 a month for a 72-hour work week and were required to pay their own compensation insurance premiums, uniforms, cleaning and laundering bills. Past history of the "labor injunction" shows that they have been sought chiefly by firms that pay that sort of wages and attempt to exact similar inhumane conditions from their employes.

FAIRMONT ALUMINUM UNION WINS GOOD PAY INCREASES

Boost in Hourly Rates Granted by Company in Second Pay Rise During Year Range From 3 to 8 Cents an Hour.

Fairmont, W. Va. (AFLNS).—Following a series of conferences held by the committee representing Aluminum Workers' Union No. 18292, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor, and officials of the Fairmont Aluminum Company of this city, announcement has been made of an increase in wages effective September 16, 1936, for all of the hourly rated employes of the company.

In addition to a flat 3 cents per hour increase in wages which has been granted all of the employes, additional adjustments in wage rates ranging from 2 cents to 5 cents per hour were granted approximately 30 of the various classifications in the plant, or two-thirds of the employes. This means that the present increase in wages for the employes of this company will be from 3 cents to 8 cents per hour and is the second increase given by the company within a year, the last one being on December 2, 1935.

Ralph Farrell, president of the board of directors, and William F. Mahon, general manager, represented the company during the negotiations. Aluminum Workers' Union No. 18292 of the American Federation of Labor had the patronage for the city bus lines, which employ union labor, as opposed to the cheap "10-cen." taxis, which it is contended are proving detrimental to workers and to the city. "The taxicab company pays very little wages to its drivers and their working conditions are bad," the official statement issued by the union said.

Kansas City Film Operators Fight Non-Union Theatres

Kansas City, Mo. (AFLNS).—The fight against 17 non-union surburban moving picture theatres is being waged vigorously by Moving Picture Machine Operators' Local No. 170, supported by the Central Labor Union and members of organized labor in general. Labor objects to what is termed a "cootie system" of labor, which enables the non-union movie houses to "chisel" on the reliable moving picture theatres that do employ union operators.

UNION LABEL GOODS SHOW IS APPLAUDED IN ATLANTA

Atlanta, Ga. (AFLNS).—Atlanta's first Union Label Exhibit, an outstanding success, ended in the proverbial blaze of glory with a big crowd that filled every available space in the Labor Hall at the City Auditorium. The closing session was addressed by John M. Baer, labor cartoonist and former member of Congress, and officials of the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, who is now also associated with the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, illustrated his lecture with crayon drawings—one of his famous "chalk talks"—adding entertainment to interest in his serious discussion of labor economics and the value of the union label, shop card and button.

The Union Label Exhibit was a display of union products manufactured and sold in Atlanta, the first exhibit of its kind ever held here. It was under auspices of the Atlanta Federation of Trades, headed by President Jay Hanson. Details of the exhibit were handled by the Union Label Committee, of which W. M. Alexander is general chairman and Leon Worley secretary. Atlanta merchants cooperated with the union representatives. The outstanding success gained this year indicates that the Union Label Exhibit will be sponsored by the Atlanta Federation in 1937, with much larger quarters.

SCHARRENBERG IS NAMED FOR GENEVA CONFERENCE

Washington, D. C. (AFLNS).—Paul Scharrenberg, legislative representative of the International Seamen's Union of America, left Washington for Geneva, Switzerland, to represent American seamen at the special maritime session of the International Labor Conference which opens on October 6. The Geneva meeting will undertake to reach final agreements on various work conditions of seamen which have been under consideration at previous sessions of the International Labor Office.

Robert W. Bruere is the Government member of the United States delegation, and Com. E. S. Land, president of the Moore-McCormick Steamship Agency is the ship owner's delegate.

OAKLAND UNIONS PLAN $125,000 LABOR TEMPLE

Oakland, Calif. (AFLNS).—A magnificent new Labor Temple will soon grace the city of Oakland, bring to realization a dream of many years, nurtured and brought to fruition by leaders of the local labor movement. The new Labor Temple will be erected by the Labor Temple Association, fully controlled by labor, and will occupy the block between Eleventh and Grove Streets. Plans and drawings have been completed for a structure that will involve an investment of about $125,000.

According to W. W. Patterson, president of the association, local unions are liberally subscribing to the building fund, and it is hoped that actual work on the new Labor Temple will get under way soon.

America Must Not Become Involved In European Wars, Green Declares

Fascism, Communism and All Other Autocratic Systems Should Be Militantly Opposed for the Preservation of Democratic Institutions, A. F. of L. President Tells American Legion Convention.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Cleveland, Ohio.—The importance of mobilizing public opinion for the defense of the principles of democracy and liberty as exemplified in American institutions was stressed by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in an address here before the annual convention of the American Legion, in which he urged a cooperative policy upon matters of interest between the two organizations.

"The American Federation of Labor, like the American Legion, is a thorough-going, American organization," Mr. Green said. "It has faith and confidence in the American form of government. It firmly believes in democratic procedure and in our country's democratic institutions. It understands quite well that the solution for our social and economic problems is to be found in the application of the remedies provided for in the democratic procedure established in and embodied in the fundamental law of the land.

"The preservation and protection of those cherished principles is a matter of primary concern and transcendent importance. I know I give utterance to the prevailing sentiment which characterizes your deliberations when I say that it is the unflinchingly determined purpose of the American Legion and the American Federation of Labor to defend and protect the principles of democracy and democratic form of government resting not to uncompromisingly oppose any attacks which may be made upon it by subversive forces.

Dictatorships Kill Free Trade Unions

"Labor has ever sought to be free, free to organize, to mobilize its economic strength, the greatest asset it has, and, through the legitimate exercise of organized effort, to lift its standard of life and living to higher levels and to promote the social and industrial welfare of the masses of the people. This is a noble objective which labor is endeavoring to realize in accordance with American traditions and American principles and ideals. That cannot exist in government prevails labor suffers most. Free, independent unions, organized and administered by the workers themselves cannot and do not exist under dictatorship.

"Freedom to meet and to strike against injustice or for the enforcement of human and tolerable conditions of employment cannot be exercised by working people in those countries where autocratic governments rule. The form of autocratic government is of little importance. It matters not whether it is a dictatorship of the proletariat, a military dictatorship or a paternalistic dictatorship of democracy.

"Religious and political freedom, freedom of press and of assemblage, in fact all those principles guaranteed to all American citizens under our form of government, cannot and do not exist where the control of government is transferred from the people themselves to dominating, individualistic forces and power.

Human Welfare Is Stressed

"Your great organization grew out of the comradeship and association of those who were members of the World War army. It was but natural that men associated in such a common cause, who were the victims of sacrifice and suffering, should be brought together in a great organization such as the American Legion.

"The memories of those awful days and of the lives which were sacrificed in the World War will ever remain fixed with you. They will serve as an inspiration to maintain and perpetuate your great organization and to use it as an instrumentality for the promotion of human welfare and the care and protection of the rights of the veterans, of those who were disabled, and of their widows and orphans.

"In this respect your organization has already achieved most beneficial results through the establishment of improved hospitalized facilities for disabled veterans, in the payment of the adjusted service certificates and in the advancement of a practical child welfare program. The officers and members of the American Federation of Labor share with the membership of your great organization in the feeling of satisfaction which they enjoy over the realization of the many of the original objectives for which the Legion was formed.

Preparations for War Deplored

"Eighteen years ago an armistice was signed which brought to a close the great World War. That was an event which caused general rejoicing in every community throughout the entire world. There is scarcely a country, in every city, hamlet and community, the people included in giving thanks to Divine Providence that the war was ended. These celebrations were tempered by a note of deep regret that the supreme sacrifice which has been made by so many thousands of Americans upon the battle fields of Europe.

"In the light of all these historic facts and the world-wide popular expression of relief and appreciation over the termination of the international conflict which caused the loss of so many lives, it seems incredible that we now hear the beating of war drums, the marching of troops and the challenges which are being hurled by the spokesmen of European nations to each other as threats of war.

"It is with a feeling of deep concern that we take notice of the war preparations which are going on in Europe. Reports from abroad show that troops are being mobilized, that armaments are being increased and all the destructive mechanisms of war are being assembled on a scale much larger than existed when the last World War took place. The indications are that another European conflict, of major importance, is inevitable.

"The facts of history disclose that when nations develop war machinery to its maximum strength and create a war spirit and a war psychology which becomes uncontrollable war becomes inevitable.

Communism and Fascism Clash

"The basis of this most perilous and distressing situation which exists in Europe rests in the fundamental differences which have arisen over political and social philosophies which grew out of the World War. It is the clash of the Communistic philosophies philosophies which is responsible for the threat of war between Germany and Russia.

"The civil war in Spain, the internal strife in France and the aggressive military program of Italy—each of these conflicting forms of political philosophy depends upon force, repression and domination for success. They cannot exist where the people govern or where democracy prevails.

"We, in the United States, freely concede that the people of other countries may adopt such form of government as they may wish. Let those who desire a Communistic form of government apply it, but any attempt to impose it by force upon another country and other peoples will be resented and opposed by those who believe in the principles of freedom, liberty and popular government.

No More European Wars for America

"Even though war preparations are going on in Europe, we are at peace. The costly lessons learned during the last World War have aroused within the officers and members of both the American Legion and the American Federation of Labor a determination never again shall our beloved country become involved in a European conflict. We must not become involved in a foreign war in which we have no direct concern.

"The neutrality legislation already passed by Congress must be and should be strengthened so that the guarantee of peace and our nation's insurance against foreign entanglements may be strengthened and maintained.

"The American Legion and the American Federation of Labor should, standing together, will constitute a mighty force against any attempt which may be made to inveigle the United States into any of the controversies and war activities of European countries.

Urges Adequate National Defense

"The maintenance of adequate national defense cannot be considered as a departure from the principle of duty to serve in every way possible in the formation of the public opinion on the part of our government, with other countries and to further the cause of international peace. The A. F. of L. has always favored the creation and maintenance of an adequate navy, large enough and strong enough to guard and protect our land from invasion and to repel any aggressive attacks which might be made against us.

"It is the conception of labor that defense preparations, as represented in naval and military equipment, should be for defensive purposes only. There can be no thought of our country being an aggressor for any reason whatsoever. Labor insists that our defense, army, navy and aviation, should be a full and complete defense, one in keeping with the standing of our country as well as its national and international requirements."

RUBBER WORKERS STRIKE AGAINST COMPANY UNION

Toledo, Ohio (AFLNS).—Employes of the Bowling Green Rubber Company here, members of Rubber Workers' Local Union No. 14, came out on strike recently, following reported attempts of the management to form a company union and refusal by the firm of union demands for union recognition, wage increases and improved working conditions. About 200 workers are reported to have responded to the strike call closing the plant.

It is stated that the highest wages heretofore paid to men were 40 cents an hour, with 31 cents an hour about the average. Maximum wages for women are said to have been $12 per week, with the majority receiving about $9. By use of the "eight hours on and eight hours off" shifts, it is stated the employes of the firm were working 12 hours a day, six and seven days a week. It is also claimed that rubber dust in the plant menaced the workers, due to poor ventilation, and that the heating plant is inadequate. Other objectionable conditions cited included only one toilet provided for 200 men and women workers.

The management called a meeting of workers, where, it is stated, they attempted to form a company union, but efforts failed when a mass meeting of all workers who joined, but this scheme was not successful.

The firm manufactures rubber couplings, automobile window weather stripping and other rubber automobile parts. According to union officials, the workers are determined to carry on the strike until their union and their just demands are recognized by the company.

INDIANA LABOR FEDERATION RECORDS 51 NEW AFFILIATES

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Adolph J. Fritz, secretary-treasurer of the Indiana State Federation of Labor, reported to the annual convention held in Evansville that during the past year 51 local, national and international organizations had affiliated with the State Federation.

The new affiliations were the result of cooperative work between the State Federation and the international unions, coupled with mail campaigns and personal visits to unaffiliated locals by State Federation officers.